



High School **SENIORS** Write an essay & Get a chance to **WIN BIG MONEY** Prizes

The following prizes will be awarded to the winners of each category:

SENIOR STUDENTS

- \$ 1st Place-(Level A) - Two \$5,000 Cash Prizes
- \$ 2nd Place-(Level B) - Two \$3,000 Cash Prizes
- \$ 3rd Place-(Level C) - Two \$2,000 Cash Prizes
- \$ 4th Place-(Level D) - Two \$1,000 Cash Prizes

SPONSOR-TEACHERS

- \$ \$500 Cash prize to the teacher who sponsors the most qualifying essays from their school. (In case of a tie, there will be a random drawing for the winner)
- \$ \$500 cash prize to the winning teacher in a random drawing of all the participating Sponsor/Teachers (One entry per teacher regardless of number of sponsored essays).
- \$ \$500 cash prize to the Sponsor-Teachers of the two level "A" winners.
- \$ \$300 cash prize to the Sponsor-Teachers of the two level "B" winners.
- \$ \$200 cash prize to the Sponsor-Teachers of the two level "C" winners.
- \$ \$100 cash prize to the Sponsor-Teachers of the two level "D" winners.

To enter you must write an essay on:
How to Create Financial Independence
By Understanding Five Principles of Investing

1. Research and discuss the three following types of retirement plans: Traditional IRA, Roth IRA and 401K. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of each retirement plan and discuss why an individual may want to invest in more than one type of retirement plan.
2. Using a financial calculator, illustrate how you can obtain \$1,000,000 by the age 65. To attain this goal, you must use and combine at least three different specific investments from among the following: stocks, bonds, mutual funds and CDs using the current rate of return for the specific investments. Research and discuss the reasons why \$1 million may not be enough money for your generation to retire.
3. Find an advertisement for an investment or business opportunity in the newspaper or online. Describe the opportunity, the initial and/or on-going costs to "invest"/"get into" the opportunity, its potential income and all the information you would need to review before investing your money. Include a discussion regarding any potential risks involved with the opportunity.
4. Choose a specific mutual fund to invest in. Describe the mutual fund's investment strategy, the types of investments held by the mutual fund, the minimum investment required (if any), and the average annual return over the past 5 years and the average annual return over the lifetime of the fund.
5. Explain the differences in coverage provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC). Explain how each corporation is funded, what risks are covered by each corporation and one investment product covered by each plan.

Funded by a grant from the Investor Protection Trust, www.investorprotection.org

www.state.sd.us/securities/essay.htm

A T T A C H P A D H E R E